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Fresno, California

June 14, 2006

The City Council met in special session at the hour of 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, on the day above written, for continued consideration of the FY 2007 City of Fresno Budget.

Present were Council members Boyajian, Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund and President Duncan, City Manager Souza, Assistant City Manager Rudd, City Attorney Sanchez, City Clerk Klisch, Assistant City Clerk Salazar, Budget Manager Smith, and necessary staff.

(6:00 P.M.) CONTINUED HEARING ON THE FY 2007 CITY OF FRESNO BUDGET**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Dyer gave a PowerPoint presentation on his department's budget which included successes/accomplishments (crime rate, traffic safety, response times, and CALEA accreditation); proposed FY 07 initiatives (Smart Policing, Video Policing, In-Car Video, License Plate Readers, Use of Civilian Cadets, a Senior Criminalist, Cyber Crime Task Force, Graffiti Abatement, Mayor's Gang Task Force for Prevention and Intervention Services, the Paroled Parent Assistance Program and Capital projects); and the increase in department funding and breakdown.

Speaking in support of the Mayor's Gang Task Force initiative were: Assistant District Attorney Alvin Harrell on behalf of District Attorney Egan; Reverend Jim Franklin, Cornerstone Church; Jeff Hollis, Fresno County Sheriff's Department; R. Kevorkian, California Department of Corrections/Parole Board Commissioner; and Art Williams, Director of Student Services, Central Unified School District.

Speaking to the video policing initiative were: Mike Rhodes, Editor of the Community Alliance newspaper who stated community input was needed, it would not reduce crime, the \$1.2 million was just a start, and the technology needed to be regulated; and David Snyder, law student at UC Berkeley and member of the Samuelson Law, Public Policy and Technology Center, who submitted model guidelines for cities planning on using video surveillance and recommended existing studies be looked at.

Continuing in support of the Mayor's Gang Task Force were Philip Kader, Fresno County Probation Department/Director of Juvenile Services, and Roger Palomino, EOC Executive Director. Diane Corbin spoke in opposition to video policing and submitted material into the record; Jeannette Ishii, Assistant County Administrative Officer spoke in support of the Mayor's Gang Task Force; and Fred Pfeifer spoke to the issues of video policing stating it was too complex an issue and public was needed first, and to the graffiti abatement initiative and staffing.

(2 - 0) Councilmember Boyajian noted he used to have a business in a bad area of town and stated he respected the rank and file officers and commended them for their work; advised his three concerns with the department were its' budget in terms of its' relation to the entire city budget, the statement that the city was at an all time low in crime, and the morale of the department and elaborated on each; and presented numerous questions at length relative to the Cadet initiative and opportunity for them to become police officers, video policing including intent, who will monitor cameras, and if any public workshops have been held, the MAGEC unit and its success, patrolling and need for more patrolling in neighborhoods, officer performance, homicide investigators and if there were staffing concerns, the use of CDBG money and how the department is weaning off those funds, if there was a charge for police calls/disturbance calls, rationale for the Paroled Parents Assistance Program, video policing and if it would be used on department employees and what assurance there was there would be no abuses, overtime mitigation efforts **(3 - 0)**, the \$900,000 for special projects, department morale and what practices were in place to increase it, and the problems the department suffered these past few years and disciplinary measures.

Chief Dyer advised a police lieutenant from the San Jose police department was present who was very instrumental in their gang prevention task force model and requested he be given an opportunity to speak.

Councilmember Westerlund commended the department for all the work they do and presented questions and comments at length relative to pension fund contributions, video surveillance and if a policy manual would be in place, request to publish that policy on the internet including camera locations, the Fresno County boot camp and the City's \$1 million annual payment, funding source, if the Gang Task Force would be funded from the general fund, the Paroled Parents Assistance Program, the boot camp contract and the importance of informing the

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County the contract is sun-setting, the Gang Task Force including how it will work and service provider issues, results of the faith-based graffiti program and need for Council to be made aware of the results, how important the City not making a financial contribution to the boot camp was, if the boot camp was successful, transfer of the graffiti team to the department and how efficiencies will be improved, concern with a police sergeant dealing with paint hoses/graffiti operations, and if paroled parents get counseling services when they are released, with Chief Dyer, City Manager Souza, Budget Manager Smith and Ms. Ishii responding throughout.

San Jose Police Lt. Ngo submitted handouts to Council and spoke to his background and to his department's successful gang task force program.

Councilmember Calhoun commended the department for all they do and commented on the issues of crime, traffic, the Gang Task Force including him seeing that as a pilot program and thanking the other entities who spoke for their support, the need for additional police officers, recruitment, video policing and the lack of details submitted, and the Traffic Operation Center and use. Councilmember Calhoun stated he felt the video policing issue was being rushed, more information and details were needed, and there was also the big question of privacy.

MOTION - Calhoun/Boyajian - Delete the Video Policing Initiative

Councilmember Calhoun spoke to the Life Skills Program stating Council never got information on that program, or the other educational programs, on whether they worked, and noted now an increase in funding was being requested for the Middle School Life Skills Program but reiterated results had not been shown.

MOTION Calhoun/Boyajian - Delete the Life Skills Program

Councilmember Calhoun spoke to graffiti stating even though the program was very well run he strongly felt the operation belonged in the police department and he supported the move, noted there were squeaks in the program and he felt this should be the year to take the existing program, operate it, and see how it works, stated he did not see the justification for the \$331,000 in additional funding being requested and added maybe next year it might be justified, and spoke to the faith-based program and expressed his concern with that stating it was discriminatory and should be opened up to any group who wants to stamp out graffiti.

Councilmember Calhoun made a motion to delete the requested \$331,000 and continue the graffiti program at last years \$260,000 level. Upon call, the motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Calhoun stated he wanted to remove the "faith-based" restriction from the \$260,000 program so that any group could participate and questioned how that would be done, with City Attorney Sanchez responding.

MOTION - Calhoun/Boyajian - Open up the use of the graffiti removal program's \$260,000 to all charitable, non-profit-type organizations.

Councilmember Calhoun presented additional questions relative to the police airplane, the \$1 million match for the public safety complex/administration center and the two police sub-stations, if money was available to drive that agenda, and if the projects could not be done without match funds, with Chief Dyer responding.

President Duncan spoke to the funding for the headquarters and joint dispatch communications center project, and noted a meeting was set for July with the Board of Supervisors to discuss consolidation of public safety services and he was concerned that moving forward with the project would affect the City's credibility, it would make the ability to move forward with the County more complicated, and it would be a challenge to get other issues resolved.

MOTION - Duncan/Boyajian - Put the joint fire/police communications center funding and planning effort in contingency until the forthcoming City/County public safety merging process is completed (clarifying this would not affect the headquarters)

President Duncan stated the goal of the July 20th joint meeting was to leave that day with a process in place to come back with specific and hard recommendations by the end of the year and stated this was not a big delay but was critical if there is to be any hope of success with the County.

The police department budget was continued to Thursday, June 15, 2006, at 6:00 p.m.

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MOTION - **Dages/Duncan** - Direct public works to appropriate funds to delete the diverter at Peach and Butler Avenues.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the City Council, the hour of 9:02 p.m. having arrived and hearing no objections, President Duncan declared the meeting adjourned to Thursday, June 15, 2006, at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED on the ____20th____ day of ____June____, 2006.

_____/s/____	ATTEST: _____/s/_____
Jerry Duncan, Council President	Yolanda Salazar, Assistant City Clerk

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